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OBLON, SPIVAK, MCCLELLAND MAIER & NEUSTADT, P.C. 1940 DUKE STREET ALEXANDRIA, VA 22314			TESLOVICH, TAMARA	
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Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

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patentdocket@oblon.com
oblonpat@oblon.com
jgardner@oblon.com

DETAILED ACTION

This Office Action is in response to Applicant's Remarks and Amendments filed January 5, 2009.

Claims 2, 6, and 10 are cancelled.

Claims 1, 7, 9, 11 and 13 are amended.

Claims 1, 3-5, 7-9, and 11-18 are pending and herein considered.

Response to Arguments

Applicant's arguments have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claims 1, 3-5, 7-9, and 11-18 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over United States Patent No. 6,248,946 to Norman Dwek and further in view of US Patent Application Publication 2001/0051996 A1 to Cooper et al.

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Regarding **Claim 1**, Dwek teaches a user authentication method for an authentication server which executes user authentication between an information terminal and a content providing server interconnected by an open network, comprising the steps of:

registering, at an authentication server, unique identification information (col.4 lines 31-43);

presenting, from the authentication server, to said mobile information terminal, a recommended menu including a plurality of official site access information for accessing predetermined content providing servers, respectively (col.4 lines 26-30 and 43-67; col.10 lines 4-24)

receiving, at the authentication server, from said information terminal, the unique identification information, and a request for registering one of said official site access information for accessing said content providing server with a personal menu via the open network (col.9 lines 31-45; col.10 lines 21-47 and 60-67);

determining, at the authentication server, whether said unique identification information received from said information terminal is registered with said customer database (col.12 lines 15-21; col.15 lines 34-40);

sending a notification from the authentication server to said content providing server by which said requested site is produced, that starting of service provision for said information terminal be permitted, if the unique identification information is found registered with said customer database (col.12 lines 15-21; col.15 lines 34-40);

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registering, at the authentication server, said requested official site access information with said personal menu after receiving an acknowledgement response of said notification from said content providing server (col.10 lines 13-67); and

notifying, to said information terminal from said authentication server, a completion of said registration (col.10 lines 35-51).

Dwek fails to teach the abovementioned system wherein the information terminal is a “mobile information terminal” and wherein the unique information corresponds to a mobile information terminal and includes a manufacturer code identifying the manufacturer of the mobile information terminal and an identification code unique to the mobile information terminal and wherein that information is encrypted by a predetermined encryption algorithm by a Web browser installed on said mobile information terminal.

Cooper teaches a network based content distribution system including a plurality of mobile information terminals (pars 31, 33, 38) wherein each of the devices includes a unique manufacturer code identifying the manufacturer of the mobile information terminal and an identification code unique to the mobile information terminal (pars 159-161) and wherein that information is transmitted in an encrypted form by a predetermined encryption algorithm (pars 39, 43, 52, 58 “encrypted”) by a web browser (pars 35, 38, 50, 51, 137, 149 “browser”) installed on the mobile information terminal (pars 283, 291 “SSL”) .

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It would have been obvious to a person of average skill in the area at the time of the invention to include within Dwek the wireless and security capabilities as described in Cooper in order to provide for users connected to the Internet and other media and document servers via mobile information terminals such as cellular phones and other handheld devices in a secure manner.

Regarding **Claim 3**, the combined method of Dwek and Cooper teaches the user authentication method according to Claim 1, wherein, when registering said site access information, user authentication is performed on the basis of said unique identification information and said mobile information terminal requested to make display for prompting said user to enter a password of the user (Cooper par 126, 148-149, 205, 218).

Regarding **Claim 4**, the combined method of Dwek and Cooper teaches the user authentication method according to Claim 3, wherein, in the registering, a charging server is instructed to charge said user for the use of a service provided by said content providing server associated with said site access information at the time of registering said site access information (Dwek col.12 lines 15-21; col.15 lines 35-40).

Regarding **Claim 5**, the combined method of Dwek and Cooper teaches the user authentication method according to Claim 4, wherein, in the registering, confirming,

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before instructing said charging server for the charging, that said user is a registered user of said charging server is included (Dwek col.12 lines 15-21; col.15 lines 35-40).

Regarding **Claim 7**, the combined method of Dwek and Cooper teaches the user authentication method according to Claim 1, wherein the unique identification information is read, by said Web browser, from a flash memory (Cooper pars 39, 126, 130) installed on said mobile information terminal and the retrieved unique identification information is transmitted as encrypted (Cooper pars 39, 43, 52, 58 "encrypted") by the predetermined encryption algorithm by said Web browser (Cooper pars 35, 38, 50, 51, 137, 149 "browser") (Dwek col.5 lines 31-43).

Regarding **Claim 8**, the combined method of Dwek and Cooper teaches the user authentication method according to Claim 7, wherein said predetermined encryption algorithm is SSL (Secure Socket Layer) (Cooper pars 283, 291).

Regarding **Claim 9**, Dwek teaches a user authentication server which executes user authentication between a information terminal and a content providing server interconnected by an open network, comprising

means for registering unique identification information corresponding to said information terminal (col.4 lines 31-43);

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means for presenting, to said information terminal, a recommended menu including a plurality of official site access information for accessing predetermined content providing servers, respectively (col.4 lines 26-30 and 43-67; col.10 lines 4-24);

means for receiving, from said information terminal, the unique identification information and a request for registering one of said official site access information for accessing said content providing server with a personal menu via the open network (col.9 lines 31-45; col.10 lines 21-47 and 60-67);

means for determining whether the unique identification information received from said information terminal is registered with said customer database (col.12 lines 15-21; col.15 lines 34-40);

means for sending a notification to said content providing server, by which said requested site is produced, that starting of service provision for said information terminal be permitted, if the unique identification information is found registered with said customer database (col.12 lines 15-21; col.15 lines 34-40);

means for registering the requested official site access information with said personal menu after receiving an acknowledgement response of said notification from said content providing server (col.10 lines 13-67); and

means for presenting, to said information terminal, a completion of said registration (col.10 lines 35-51).

Dwek fails to teach the abovementioned system wherein the information terminal is a "mobile information terminal" and wherein the unique information corresponds to a

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mobile information terminal and includes a manufacturer code identifying the manufacturer of the mobile information terminal and an identification code unique to the mobile information terminal and wherein that information is encrypted by a predetermined encryption algorithm by a Web browser installed on said mobile information terminal.

Cooper teaches a network based content distribution system including a plurality of mobile information terminals (pars 31, 33, 38) wherein each of the devices includes a unique manufacturer code identifying the manufacturer of the mobile information terminal and an identification code unique to the mobile information terminal (pars 159-161) and wherein that information is transmitted in an encrypted form by a predetermined encryption algorithm (pars 39, 43, 52, 58 “encrypted”) by a web browser (pars 35, 38, 50, 51, 137, 149 “browser”) installed on the mobile information terminal (pars 283, 291 “SSL”) .

It would have been obvious to a person of average skill in the area at the time of the invention to include within Dwek the wireless and security capabilities as described in Cooper in order to provide for users connected to the Internet and other media and document servers via mobile information terminals such as cellular phones and other handheld devices in a secure manner.

Regarding **Claim 11**, the combined method of Dwek and Cooper teaches the user authentication server according to claim 9 wherein the unique identification information is read, by said Web browser, from a flash memory (Cooper pars 39, 126,

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130) installed on said mobile information terminal and the retrieved unique identification information is transmitted as encrypted (Cooper pars 39, 43, 52, 58 "encrypted") by the predetermined encryption algorithm by said Web browser (Cooper pars 35, 38, 50, 51, 137, 149 "browser") (Dwek col.5 lines 31-43).

Regarding **Claim 12**, the combined method of Dwek and Cooper teaches the user authentication server according to claim 11 wherein said predetermined encryption algorithm is SSL (Cooper pars 283, 291).

Regarding **Claim 13**, Dwek teaches a user authentication server which executes user authentication between a information terminal and a content providing server interconnected by an open network, comprising:

a registering module configured to register unique identification information corresponding to said information terminal received from the information terminal with a customer database of said authentication server (col.4 lines 31-43);

an interface configured to present, to said information terminal, a recommended menu including a plurality of official site access information for accessing predetermined content providing servers, respectively (col.4 lines 26-30 and 43-67; col.10 lines 4-24);

an interface configured to receive, from said information terminal, the unique identification information and a request for registering one of said official site access information for accessing said content providing server with a personal menu via the open network (col.9 lines 31-45; col.10 lines 21-47 and 60-67);

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a determination module configured to determine whether the unique identification information received from said information terminal is registered with said customer database (col.12 lines 15-21; col.15 lines 34-40);

an interface configured to transmit a notification to said content providing server, by which said requested site is produced, that starting of a service provision for said information terminal be permitted, if the unique information is found registered with said customer database by the determination module (col.12 lines 15-21; col.15 lines 34-40);

a registering module configured to register the requested official site access information with said personal menu after receiving an acknowledgement response of said notification from said content providing server (col.10 lines 13-67); and

an interface configured to present, to said information terminal, a completion of said registration (col.10 lines 35-51).

Dwek fails to teach the abovementioned system wherein the information terminal is a "mobile information terminal" and wherein the unique information corresponds to a mobile information terminal and includes a manufacturer code identifying the manufacturer of the mobile information terminal and an identification code unique to the mobile information terminal and wherein that information is encrypted by a predetermined encryption algorithm by a Web browser installed on said mobile information terminal.

Cooper teaches a network based content distribution system including a plurality of mobile information terminals (pars 31, 33, 38) wherein each of the devices includes a unique manufacturer code identifying the manufacturer of the mobile information

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terminal and an identification code unique to the mobile information terminal (pars 159-161) and wherein that information is transmitted in an encrypted form by a predetermined encryption algorithm (pars 39, 43, 52, 58 “encrypted”) by a web browser (pars 35, 38, 50, 51, 137, 149 “browser”) installed on the mobile information terminal (pars 283, 291 “SSL”) .

It would have been obvious to a person of average skill in the area at the time of the invention to include within Dwek the wireless and security capabilities as described in Cooper in order to provide for users connected to the Internet and other media and document servers via mobile information terminals such as cellular phones and other handheld devices in a secure manner.

Regarding **claim 14**, the the combined method of Dwek and Cooper teaches the authentication server according to Claim 13, wherein the recommended menu including a plurality of official site access information includes a plurality of hierarchical levels of categories (Dwek col.10 lines 4-20).

Regarding **claim 15**, the combined method of Dwek and Cooper teaches the authentication server according to Claim 13, wherein the customer database is configured to store a name, age, birthday, gender and address corresponding to a user (Dwek col.10 lines 4-20, 52-59).

Regarding **claim 16**, the combined method of Dwek and Cooper teaches the authentication server according to Claim 15, wherein the authentication server uses at least one of the name, age, birthday, gender and address corresponding to a user to generate the recommended menu (Dwek col.10 lines 4-20, 52-59).

Regarding **claim 17**, the combined method of Dwek and Cooper teaches the authentication server according to claim 13, wherein the personal menu includes a plurality of icons, each of which corresponds to a link to a website external to the authentication server (Dwek col.9 lines 58-66; col.10 lines 35-47).

Regarding **claim 18**, the combined method of Dwek and Cooper teaches the authentication server according to claim 13, wherein the authentication server and the content providing server are remotely connected via the Internet (Dwek col.4 lines 53-67).

Conclusion

Applicant's amendment necessitated the new ground(s) of rejection presented in this Office action. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL**. See MPEP § 706.07(a). Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire **THREE MONTHS** from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within

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TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the date of this final action.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Tamara Teslovich whose telephone number is (571) 272-4241. The examiner can normally be reached on Mon-Fri 8-4:30.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Emmanuel Moise can be reached on (571) 272-3865. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

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/Tamara Teslovich/
Examiner, Art Unit 2437

/Emmanuel L. Moise/
Supervisory Patent Examiner, Art Unit 2437